581 In discussing the matter
582 further, informants always point out the relative difficulty of divorce
602 in such marriages as well as the lack of personal independence. The woman's relatives, who are also ego's (male speaking), always try to patch up the differences between her and ego, and scold him for not being 'good' to his little sister. On the other hand, the move towards semi-independence, signalled by marriage, is restricted by cousin marriage. In-law avoidance which draws a man to his wife, and she to him as a social unit set apart from their own dominant backgrounds, is much weakened in this kind of union, which makes it more difficult for a man to maintain any individual independence of his kin group.

[illegible]

One common form of this marriage occurs in the following manner. A person subservient to a powerful household head may need a wife and make this known to the household head, as he invariably does, along with all of his other requirements. The superior then give his subordinate a girl from among the marriageable girls of the household, to whom the household head stands in the relation of luwali. By so doing, the household head strengthens his ties with his subordinate by extending their relation to include father-in-law/son-in-law.(1) It will

(602) (1) He always behaves to his wife's luwali in the same manner as he does to his wife's biological father, whether the roles are occupied by the same persons or not.

1: Cohen

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/For information on the Kanuri practice of child fosterage, see category 855./